(b) During 1986-87 the power shortage in the country was about 9.4 per cent.

(c) The shortage of power during 1984-85 and 1985-86 was about 6.7 per cent and 7.9 per cent respectively.

(d) The Power generation from hydel capacity is mainly dependent on reservoir levels. In order to improve the performance of existing hydro-electric projects, a Committee has been set up to examine the issue of renovation/modernisation/uprating of hydel-generating units in the country. For maximising generation from existing thermal power stations, various measures have been taken which include implementation of the centrally sponsored renovation and modernisation programme at 33 existing thermal stations, periodic field visits by Roving Teams and Task Forces for drawing specific action plans to overcome the various constraints, providing assistance to the State Electricity Boards in training of personnel, procurement of spare parts and in the supply of requisite quality and quantity of coal.

(e) In order to improve the availability of power, various measures are being taken which include expediting commissioning of new capacity, improving the utilisation of existing capacity, implementing short gestation projects, reducing transmission and distribution losses, implementation of energy conservation and demand management measures and arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit States.

Pesticide Formulations to Small Scale Sector

1496. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have imposed restrictions on pesticide formulations to small sacle sector during the last 15 years hereas demanded of pesticides several hundred times during this period with the result that multi-nationals MRTP companies big business houses are taking full advantage of this bar;

(b) whether it is also a fact that from the last couple of years Government have started that relaxaion of ban in favour of small scale sector will be taken after review of the existing arrangements for quality control in the small scale sector;

(c) whether Government have since relaxed the ban; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in negative, what are the administrative and other difficulties Government are still having to not relaxing the ban for small scale sector which was imposed 15 years ago?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Credation of additional pesticides formulation capacity has been banned in the country since August, 1974. The ban is applicable to small scale as well as organised sector units including multi-national MRTP companies and big business houses.

(b) and (c) The position was reviewed in 1981 and partial relaxation for creation of additional capacity was allowed in favour of State and Central Public Sector Undertakings and Co-operatives with a view to remove difficulties of farmers and to associate public/cooperative sector in this field in order to get quality formulations at reasonable prices.

(d) Creation of fresh formulation capacity in respect of small scale units was reviewed at length some time back but it was not considered favourably on account of safety and quality control angle and also hazards involved in handling different technical pesticides.

Production of Coal Tar by Cochin Refineries

1497. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI K. GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what had been the production of coal tar by Cochin Refinery during the last three years, yearwise;

(b) how much coal tar had been despatched during the last three years, yearwise;

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that there is shortage of coal tar in Kerala; if so, what are the reasons for the same and what steps have been taken to ease the situation and;

(d) whether Government propose to hire tanker and lorries from all over the country and despatch the same to Kerala to ease the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (d) Production and despatches of Bitumen (tar) from Cochin Refinery during the last three years is as follows:

Year	Production (in tonnes)	Despatches (in tonnes)
1984-85	—	3170
1985-86	2664	120
1986-87	23689	20349

By and large there is no shortage of bitumen in Kerala. Any shortfall in production by Cochin Refinery is made up by movement from other refieneries. Production of all petroleum products was affected in Cochin Refinery due to a fire and explosion on March 8, 1984.

Delay in Clearance of Pykara Hydro-Electric Power Station

1498. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Electricity Authoriy has since cleared the proposal for the Pykara hydro electric power station which was submitted by the Tamil Nadu Government in August, 1982; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons for the delay of clearance of the proposal when there is huge shortfall of electricity generation in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTETR OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) The proposed Pykara hydro-electric project (3x50 MW) was considered for clearance by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in October, 1986 but was deferred as studies were required to be carried out by the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (T.N.E.B.) on technical aspects like requirements of peaking capacity, useful life of the existing station, etc. The T.N.E.B. have, in April, 1987 furnished the information to the C.E.A. to enable further examination of the proposal.

Captive Power Station in Tamil Nadu

1499. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some schemes for the installation of captive power stations or power stations in